

CLAIMS

1. An inkjet printer which comprises
a pagewidth printhead assembly that defines a plurality of ink passages so that the
5 printhead assembly can be supplied with ink;
an ink conduit structure that is connected to the printhead assembly, the ink conduit
structure defining a plurality of converging ink conduits that are in fluid communication
with respective ink passages;
a ink distribution structure that is connected to the ink conduit structure, the ink
10 distribution structure defining a plurality of ink ducts, each ink duct being in fluid
communication with a respective set of ink conduits; and
a number of inlet ports arranged on the ink distribution structure, each inlet port
being in fluid communication with a respective ink duct.
- 15 2. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 1, in which the pagewidth printhead assembly
includes a number of printhead chips that are positioned to span a width of a printing path.
3. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 1, in which the ducts of the ink distribution
structure are positioned on an outer side of the ink distribution structure, the ink distribution
20 structure further defining a plurality of transitional ducts positioned on an opposed inner
side of the structure, each transitional duct being in fluid communication with a
corresponding duct and said respective set of ink conduits.
4. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 3, in which the ink conduit structure is in the
25 form of a stack of sheets, each sheet having a plurality of openings and inwardly directed
channels defined therein, the openings and channels being dimensioned and positioned so
that, when the sheets are in the stack, the openings and channels together define the
converging ink conduits.
- 30 5. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 4, in which each sheet is a micro-molded
structure.

6. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 4, in which the openings and channels are dimensioned and positioned so that the ink conduit structure defines a plurality of sets of inlet openings, each set of inlet openings corresponding to an ink of a particular color and being in fluid communication with a transitional duct and a respective ink conduit, each
5 conduit terminating at a slot which is in fluid communication with a respective ink passage.

7. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 1, which includes a cover member that is engaged with the ink distribution structure to close the ink distribution structure, the cover member defining the inlet ports.
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